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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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IBM CORP (YA) C/O YEE & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380			EXAMINER ROBINSON BOYCE, AKIBA K	
			ART UNIT 3628	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ptonotifs@yeciipaw.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/697,918

Applicant(s)

CHAGOLY ET AL.

Examiner

AKIBA K. ROBINSON BOYCE

Art Unit

3628

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-16 and 18-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-16 and 18-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. Due to communications filed 7/15/08, the following is a final office action. Claims 1, 11 and 21 have been amended. Claims 7 and 7 have been cancelled. Claims 1-6, 8-16 and 18-21 are pending in this application and have been examined on the merits. The previous rejection has been adjusted to reflect claim amendments. Claims 1-6, 8-16 and 18-21 are rejected as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mougín et al (US 2005/0261945 A1).

As per claim 1, Mougín et al discloses:

Retentively storing a user profile in a profile database..., and contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking parameters selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking space is on an end of a row, ([0038], storage means in order to store the data about users and profile the users, w/[0015], shows that the booking request parameters relate to the destination, date, duration, associated service,

payment method and/or booking price, which is all information that relates to the user selections, thereby suggesting that the storage means stores this parameter data, where the parameter data represents the preference data of the user since the user has made these particular selections in the request, w/[0076], shows database is updated to take into account physical occupancy of the car park, where the database is a part of the central reservation unit as shown in [0026], and the user profile is created through central reservation unit by way of access portal as discussed in [0038], thereby showing that the user profile contains data concerning physical occupancy of the car park);

providing a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system, ([0072]-[0073], database 20 can be created and updated by the car park operator via the Internet, e. g. with a daily update of the number of spaces allocated);

determining a list of available parking spaces, ([0042], can send to user offers of one or more spaces available for booking); and

responsive to a user communication with the parking management system, retrieving from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference wherein said retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one said parking spaces by said user, ([0040]-[0041], shows the search for the best vacant parking space is based on database, w/ [0061], shows access control device can construct a local database in order to avoid the unauthorized multiple use of a booked space, thereby

showing multiple use of a booked space as long as it is authorized, thereby suggesting a previous retrieval of a user profile for use of the booked space);

responsive to said user communication with the parking management system, providing an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces, ([0040], locating best vacant parking space that meets the parameters defined by the user).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for a retrieval to follow at least one previous retrieval of said user profile with the motivation of showing steps necessary for multiple use of the same space used by a user.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to specifically store at least one user preference data with the motivation of using stored preferences to determine the availability of parking spaces.

Mougin et al does not specifically disclose wherein said user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, however, does disclose an access portal allowing access to the central reservation unit via Internet-type communication and which also allows for storage of the user profile in [0038], thereby suggesting retrieval capability of the user profile since the profile is capable of being stored on an access portal, it is capable of being accessed, and also suggests multiple retrieval capability since the communication means comprises the Internet.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be stored for multiple retrievals at each of two

or more successive times with the motivation of showing that data which is stored on an access device can also be retrieved.

4. Claims 3, 4, 8-11, 13, 14, 18-20, 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mougin et al (US 2005/0261945 A1), and further in view of Squire et al (US 6,970,101).

As per claims 3, 13, Mougin et al does not specifically disclose the following, however, does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and [0015].

However, Squire et al discloses:

wherein the data concerning preferred parking parameters includes a set of parameters and, for each parameter within the set of parameters, a preference value and a priority, (col. 8, lines 25-31, prioritized list, w/ col. 10, lines 18-37, list of customer preferences is stored to represent each preference relative to importance, especially, lines 22-32, [see chart], where the set of parameters = handicapped parking, safety level, etc, preference values = 1,2, and priority = P1, P2, etc). Squire et al discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of showing that a prioritized list is used to match a vehicle with a vacant parking space.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to include a preference value and a priority for parking parameters with the motivation of assigning a space according to the importance to the vehicle operator.

As per claims 4, 14, Mougin et al does not specifically disclose the following, however, does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and [0015].

However, Squire et al discloses:

wherein the user profile is a default profile, (Col. 10, lines 14-17, some data regarding customer preference may be assessed automatically, w/ lines 33-34, default value applied). Squire et al discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of showing that all information not specifically selected by a user is set to default values.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be a default profile with the motivation of applying a default value to values that are not present.

As per claims 8, 18, Mougin et al discloses:

wherein determining a list of available parking spaces includes receiving sensor information from a plurality of sensors, wherein each sensor within the plurality of sensors indicates whether a given parking space is occupied, ([0054], detection device).

As per claims 9, 19, Mougin et al discloses:

wherein providing an optimal available parking space includes outputting the optimal available parking space to an output device, ([0058], device).

As per claim 10, 20, Mougin et al discloses:

wherein output device is one of a display and a printer, ([0058], printed)

As per claim 11, Mougin et al discloses:

a parking management system, ([0005])

a profile database for retentively storing a user profile..., and contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking space parameters selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking space is on an end of a row, ([0038], storage means in order to store the data about users and profile the users, w/([0015], shows that the booking request parameters relate to the destination, date, duration, associated service, payment method and/or booking price, which is all information that relates to the user selections, thereby suggesting that the storage means stores this parameter data, where the parameter data represents the preference data of the user since the user has made these particular selections in the request, w/([0076], shows database is updated to take into account physical occupancy of the car park, where the database is a part of the central reservation unit as shown in [0026], and the user profile is created through central reservation unit by way of access portal as discussed in [0038], thereby showing that the user profile contains data concerning physical occupancy of the car park); and

a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system, ([0072]-[0073], database 20 can be created and updated by the car park operator via the Internet, e. g. with a daily update of the number of spaces allocated).

wherein the parking management system determines a list of available parking spaces, and, in response to a user communication with the parking management

system, retrieves from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference, wherein said retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one said parking spaces by said user, and, in further response to said user communication, provides an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces, ([0042], can send to user offers of one or more spaces available for booking, [0040]-[0041], shows the search for the best vacant parking space is based on database, [0040], locating best vacant parking space that meets the parameters defined by the user, w/ [0061], shows access control device can construct a local database in order to avoid the unauthorized multiple use of a booked space, thereby showing multiple use of a booked space as long as it is authorized, thereby suggesting a previous retrieval of a user profile, and previous use for use of the booked space);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to specifically store at least one user preference data with the motivation of using stored preferences to determine the availability of parking spaces.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for a retrieval to follow at least one previous retrieval of said user profile with the motivation of showing steps necessary for multiple use of the same space used by a user).

Mougin et al does not specifically disclose wherein said user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, however, does disclose an

access portal allowing access to the central reservation unit via Internet-type communication and which also allows for storage of the user profile in [0038], thereby suggesting retrieval capability of the user profile since the profile is capable of being stored on an access portal, it is capable of being accessed, and also suggests multiple retrieval capability since the communication means comprises the Internet.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times with the motivation of showing that data which is stored on an access device can also be retrieved.

As per claim 21, Mougin et al discloses:

instructions for retentively storing a user profile in a profile database, wherein said user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times, and contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking space parameters selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is on one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or exit, and an indicator of whether the parking pace is on an end of a row, ([0038], storage means in order to store the data about users and profile the users, w/[0015], shows that the booking request parameters relate to the destination, date, duration, associated service, payment method and/or booking price, which is all information that relates to the user selections, thereby suggesting that the storage means stores this parameter data, where the parameter data represents the preference

data of the user since the user has made these particular selections in the request, w/([0076], shows database is updated to take into account physical occupancy of the car park, where the database is a part of the central reservation unit as shown in [0026], and the user profile is created through central reservation unit by way of access portal as discussed in [0038], thereby showing that the user profile contains data concerning physical occupancy of the car park);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to specifically store at least one user preference data with the motivation of using stored preferences to determine the availability of parking spaces.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for a retrieval to follow at least one previous retrieval of said user profile with the motivation of showing steps necessary for multiple use of the same space used by a user);

instructions for providing a parking database including data concerning parking parameters for each of a plurality of parking spaces under the control of a parking management system, ([0072]-[0073], database 20 can be created and updated by the car park operator via the Internet, e. g. with a daily update of the number of spaces allocated, ([0038], storage means in order to store the data about users and profile the users, w/ [0015], shows that the booking request parameters relate to the destination, date, duration, associated service, payment method and/or booking price, which is all information that relates to the user selections, thereby suggesting that the storage means stores this parameter data, where the parameter data represents the preference

data of the user since the user has made these particular selections in the request, w/([0026], a database containing the data relating to the requests);

instructions for determining a list of available parking spaces, ([0042], can send to user offers of one or more spaces available for booking); and instructions, responsive to a user communication with a parking management system, for providing an optimal available parking space based on a user profile retentively stored in a profile database, wherein said user profile contains at least one user preference, instructions responsive to a user communication with the parking management system, for retrieving from said profile database a previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference, wherein said retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of said user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one of said parking spaces by said user, ([0040]-[0041], shows the search for the best vacant parking space is based on database, [0040], locating best vacant parking space that meets the parameters defined by the user).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to specifically store at least one user preference data with the motivation of using stored preferences to determine the availability of parking spaces.

Mougin et al does not specifically disclose instructions responsive to said user communication with the parking management system, for providing an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces, however, does disclose an access portal allowing access to the central reservation unit via Internet-type communication and which also

allows for storage of the user profile in [0038], thereby suggesting retrieval capability of the user profile since the profile is capable of being stored on an access portal, it is capable of being accessed, and also suggests multiple retrieval capability since the communication means comprises the Internet, w/[0040]-[0041], shows the search for the best vacant parking space is based on database, [0040], locating best vacant parking space that meets the parameters defined by the user).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for providing an optimal available parking space based on the previously stored user profile, the parking database, and the list of available parking spaces with the motivation of providing a parking space based on the multiple components of the system.

5. Claims 2, 5, 6, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mougins et al (US 2005/0261945 A1) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Zeitman (US 5,940,481).

As per claim 2, Mougins et al does not specifically disclose the following, however, does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and [0015].

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference includes an identification of a user, (Col. 1, lines 46-49, database includes a user identification, along with parking facility availability). Zeitman discloses this

limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of identifying a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to include an identification of a user with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

As per claim 5, Squire et al does not specifically disclose wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, but does disclose a database that includes customer preferences in order to identify information about parking with the customer in Col. 11, lines 30-33, and lines 51-53.

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, (Col. 4, lines 16-23, user ID read to determine the user's specifics pertaining to a parking reservation). Zeitman discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of identifying a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be selected responsive to receiving an identification of a user with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

As per claims 6, Squire et al does not specifically disclose wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface, but does disclose a database that includes customer preferences in order to identify information about parking with the customer in Col. 11, lines 30-33, and lines 51-53.

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface, (Col. 4, lines 16-23, card reader reads user identification data). Zeitman discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of using a card reader to identify a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the identification of the user to be received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

6. Claims 12, 15, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mougin et al (US 2005/0261945 A1) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of and further in view of Squire et al (US 6,970,101), and further in view of Zeitman (US 5,940,481).

As per claims 12, 15, neither Mougin et al nor Squire et al specifically disclose wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, but Mougin et al does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and

[0015], and Squire et al does disclose a database that includes customer preferences in order to identify information about parking with the customer in Col. 11, lines 30-33, and lines 51-53.

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, (Col. 4, lines 16-23, user ID read to determine the user's specifics pertaining to a parking reservation). Zeitman discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of identifying a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be selected responsive to receiving an identification of a user with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

As per claim 15, neither Squire et al nor Mougins et al specifically disclose wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, but Mougins et al does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and [0015], and Squire et al does disclose a database that includes customer preferences in order to identify information about parking with the customer in Col. 11, lines 30-33, and lines 51-53.

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein said previously stored user profile containing said at least one user preference is selected in response to receiving an identification of a user, (Col. 4, lines 16-23, user ID read to determine the user's specifics pertaining to a parking reservation). Zeitman discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of identifying a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the user profile to be selected responsive to receiving an identification of a user with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

As per claim 16, neither Squire et al nor Mougins et al specifically disclose wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface, but Mougins et al does disclose parking parameters as shown above in the rejection of claim 1 in [0038] and [0015], and Squire et al does disclose a database that includes customer preferences in order to identify information about parking with the customer in Col. 11, lines 30-33, and lines 51-53.

However, Zeitman discloses:

wherein the identification of the user is received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface, (Col. 4, lines 16-23, card reader reads user identification data). Zeitman discloses this limitation in an analogous art for the purpose of using a card reader to identify a user with information about parking facility availability through a database.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention for the identification of the user to be received by one of a card reader and a keypad interface with the motivation of identifying the user profile having parking characteristics with a user identification through a database.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 7/15/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that prior art fails to disclose (1) Retentively storing a user profile in a profile database, wherein the user profile is stored for multiple retrievals at each of two or more successive times. However, as described in the rejection, this feature is obvious with Mougín et al since Mougín et al does disclose an access portal allowing access to the central reservation unit via Internet-type communication and which also allows for storage of the user profile in [0038], thereby suggesting retrieval capability of the user profile since the profile is capable of being stored on an access portal, it is capable of being accessed, and also suggests multiple retrieval capability since the communication means comprises the Internet.

Applicant also argues that prior art fails to disclose (2) Responsive to a user communication with the parking management system, retrieving from the profile database a previously stored user profile containing at least one user preference, wherein the retrieval follows at least one previous retrieval of the user profile that was associated with at least one prior use of one of the parking spaces by the user.

However, as described in the rejection, [0061] of Mougin shows an access control device that can construct a local database in order to avoid the unauthorized multiple use of a booked space, thereby showing multiple use of a booked space as long as it is authorized, thereby suggesting a previous retrieval of a user profile for use of the booked space. In addition, in [0015], Mougin discloses that the booking request parameters relate to the destination, date, duration, associated service, payment method and/or booking price, which is all information that relates to the user selections, thereby suggesting that the storage means stores this parameter data, where the parameter data represents the preference data of the user since the user has made these particular selections in the request.

Applicant also argues that prior art fails to disclose (3) The user profile stored in the profile database contains at least one user preference concerning preferred parking space parameters selected from a group that includes at least one of an indication of whether a pole is on one side of the parking space, a distance from an elevator lobby, a distance from an entrance or an exit, and an indicator of whether the parking space is on an end of a row. However, as described in the rejection, [0076] of Mougin shows that database is updated to take into account physical occupancy of the car park, where the database is a part of the central reservation unit as shown in [0026], and the user profile is created through central reservation unit by way of access portal as discussed in [0038], thereby showing that the user profile contains data concerning physical occupancy of the car park.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Akiba K Robinson-Boyce whose telephone number is 571-272-6734. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

•Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you

have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

A. R. B.
October 16, 2008

/Akiba K Robinson-Boyce/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3628